PUDUKKOTTAI STATE
WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

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SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS' BROADCAST TO THE INDIAN PEOPLE.

'TO STRIVE, TO SEEK, TO FIND AND NOT TO YIELD'.

We may differ as to the methods by which that freedom can best be reached both now and in the future, but upon one thing we must all be agreed.

That it cannot be reached through a fresh conquest of India by a power such as Japan who has shown herself brutal and intolerant to her own Asiatic sister nations.

It is only necessary to visit Formosa or the Occupied parts of China—as I have done—to know that through a Japanese conquest, death, misery, and starvation will come.

The widely advertised propaganda of the Japanese, painting themselves as the liberators of China, has resulted in nothing but untold suffering and tragedy for hundreds of thousands of honest and peaceful Chinese men, women and children.

The same propaganda now being made to trick the Indian people into submission holds out for them no better prospect than the dire sufferings which have been inflicted upon their Chinese neighbours.

THE FASCIST CREED.

The basic philosophy of the Japanese Fascists, as of their German counter-parts, is that they, as a superior race, have the right to enslave all whom they can conquer. I have seen and heard of the exploits of the Nazis in Russia, in Poland, in Yugoslavia and in other Slav countries of Europe, and I know that none but the most diseased imagination could ever conjure up the ghastly and sadistic horrors which these barbarians have made a reality, throughout every town and village in that vast area.

That human bestiality could sink so low as in the case of the Nazi hordes in eastern Europe, and of their Japanese allies in China and other places, is an overwhelming tragedy for the world, and it is a tragedy that we and you and all the Allied nations are determined to expunge from the pages of history, in the only way that we can, by the decisive defeat of those responsible for this brutalisation of humanity.

APPEAL TO INDIANS.

No people with the culture of the Indians—a culture as old, as deep and as real as that of their Chinese neighbours—could ever stand by and tolerate these insults to their moral standards and to their common humanity.

Whatever our past differences may have been, however great the political difficulties of solving our present problems may be, we can and must stand together to fight upon your fair Indian soil for the decencies of humanity, and for the right to clean, honest nd unbrutalised lives.

Our philosophies, our religions and our traditions differ widely, but in whatever form we may each worship our own conception of supreme power and absolute goodness, we, one and all, desire to see those ethical and moral standards which are implicit in our religion become the touchstone of our behaviour in all the wide and human contacts which make up our day-to-day life.

GALLANT ALLIES.

And, in this epic struggle for decent moral standards in the world, we fight against the Godless barbarism and bestiality of our enemies, but we do not fight alone. Russia, China, the United States of America, and all the Allied nations, with their suffering peoples, stand beside us; a great company of gallant men and women who will give their all for those things which they know to be right and just.

On the battlefields of Russia and China, in their cities and on their farms, millions of our fellow men and women have already given their lives that we might live.

To that great and gallant army of the heroic dead, we not only owe a debt of gratitude, but we acknowledge a duty and an obligation.

GREAT SACRIFICES.

"To strive, to seek to find and not to yield." To strive. to seek, to find that righteous victory which they died to win, and not to yield to that barbarous aggression against which they made their bodies a living wall of resistance.

It is true that millions have died in those countries, as others have died in the crowded streets of our English cities, in our ships upon the high seas and fighting in our armies on the land and in the air: but as each has fallen others have crowded forward to take the vacant place, and countless millions are even now preparing to stengthen and reinforce the effort, to make victory sure.

The hour has struck when India herself is being driven inexorably by the aggression of Japan into the front line of defence in a war which now

spreads its evil tentacles into nearly every country in world.

India takes her place, and takes it proudly, beside the peoples of Russia, China and America, as yet another vast continental area is attacked by an unscrupulous and self-seeking foe.

UNITY IS STRENGTH.

We shall do our utmost, despite all our heavy commitments elsewhere, and the United States of America will lend her great and growing aid as well, to assist Indians in the defence of their country. We ask them to help us as we seek to help them. Together we can do much, divided we can do far less.

Hard and difficult times surely lie ahead, the path of honour and of duty has never been an easy one, and to-day in those who would follow it to its end, there must be found a greater courage and determination than ever before; but the end is certain as the slow wheels of justice grind out defeat for the aggressor nations.

The vast resources of manufacture of the United States, of Great Britain and of Russia, matched to the unlimited manpower of the Allied nations, can bring but one result—the final victory, even though it be delayed, and towards that victory India can and must play her part, a part that will give her the proud right to full and free representation in the council of the nations, when they meet to make the final peace which can, if we will it, lead the peoples of the world into a brighter and happier future of organised and co-operative freedom.

THE FUTURE.

As during all wars the rate of historical development must be accelerated, so during this the greatest of all wars, the speed of advance and the pressure of events will be greater than ever before. The common peoples of the world will have opportunities in the world resettlement such as they have never had before; and the Indian peoples and their leaders must make ready to play their full part in the building of the new world order.

Let us then put aside the discussions of the last month and let them take their ordered place in history, while we turn all our energies to the defence of India, the first step to building a new and free future for the Indain peoples.

FIRE AND COURAGE OF YOUTH.

This is the time when the youth of the world are called upon to make every sacrifice, to the ultimate sacrifice of life itself, but through that selfless service to humanity, they earn the right to take their full share in the shaping of the future. That future must inevitably be influenced by what is done during these anxious days and months of war.

Though old heads may be wiser, old hearts cannot have the fire and courage of youth—it is that fire and courage which we must summon to the defence of India and to the building of her freedom when victory is won.

Risks must be taken, innovations must be tried, and we must climb quickly out of the ruts of peacetime

habits and customs. A new tempo is needed, a new devotion, a more total effort to finish quickly with the horrors of war and reach that new and constructive era of our world civilisation, upon which we all must concentrate our every energy, once the war is won.

ALL-OUT EFFORT.

I have seen that effort being made in the Soviet Union, the whole-hearted devotion of an entire continent—more varied in racial origin than India herself—and the world has learnt what a great and courageous people inspired with the love of their country and of their freedom can achieve.

I have witnessed, too, the Chinese—ill-equipped, lacking many essential supplies—indomitably carrying on their defence, year after year, and wearing down the aggressor who has penetrated deep into their homeland.

The cities and towns of England have been deeply scarred and her people have suffered as none ever before from the concentrated hate of enemy bombing. Their courage and their fortitude have thrilled the world.

Now is the time for India and her peoples to join their courage, their strength and their endurance in this great heroic and world-wide army of the common people, and to take their part in those smashing blows for victory against brutality and aggression which shall for ever free the masses from the age-long fear and tragedy of poverty and of war.

LECTURE XCI.

TURKEY AND THE WAR.

1925-1930—The Balkan Pacts.

In the Balkans Turkey had lost a great deal of territory in the war of 1914-18, but she did not range herself on the side of revisionist Powers. Her interest in the Balkans was limited to the settlement of her outstanding difficulties with individual States, and the promotion of good relations between her neighbours who, although friendly towards her, were in varying degrees hostile to one another. The Turkish treaties with Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, concluded in 1925, and the Turco-Greek Treaty of 1930 improved Turkey's position in the Balkans.

1933—The Little Entente.

With the rise of Hitler to power at the beginning of 1933 the danger for the small states of Europe grew greater than ever. The Little Entente drew closer together in Feb. 1933, and the following year Rumania, Yugoslavia,

Greece and Turkey signed the **Balkan Pact of Understanding.** The political alignment in south-east Europe would have been complete but for the fact that Bulgaria and Albania under Facist Italian influence stood aside.

1937—The Saadabad Pact.

Turkey developed close relations with the Middle East. During 1921, Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan entered into friendly relations with one another, which later on developed into the Saadabad Pact of July 1937, and included Iraq also. The Pact guaranteed the inviolability of frontiers and provided for reciprocal non-aggression.

1938—Montreux.

Taking advantage of her election to the Council of the League of Nations in 1934, and conscious of the fact that the main menace to her independent national existence came from Italy who desired supremacy in the Mediterranean, and Germany who wished once again to dominate the Near and the Middle East, Turkey sought to buttress her pacts of friendship with the full acceptance of the system of collective security. But the Nazi fortification of the Rhineland and the Italian conquest of Abyssinia forced Turkey to seek a revision of the Straits clauses in the Treaty of Lausanne, and to improve the Balkan alliances. By a constitutional revision of the Treaty of Lausanne at Montreux, Turkey secured full rights to fortify the Straits, and in 1938 Bulgaria was persuaded to promise non-aggression against the members of the Balkan Entente.

October 1939—Anglo-French-Turkish Alliance.

On the outbreak of war in the autumn of 1939, Turkey immediately adopted measures of self-defence, including the calling up of 17 army classes. In a statement to the Kamutay the Turkish Premier emphasised the point that with Britain and France Turkey had " common interests and a common conception of which the house knows the principles". With Russia, he said relations would continue to be friendly, and with Germany they would conform to international rules, for Turkey had no direct difference with her.

On Oct. 19, the Treaty with Britain and France was signed in Ankara. It provided for reciprocal aid in the event of an extension of war to the Balkans and the eastern Mediterranean. Opening 16th Session of the Kamutay the President explained that " **the Pact will come into effect only if some state seeks to trample on our lawful aspirations". A week later the Kamutay unanimously ratified the Treaty.**

January 1940—Credits.

In January 1940 Britain and France granted Turkey credits amounting to £ 43½ million, of which £ 25 million was in armaments, £ 15 million in gold

(to maintain the Turkish exchange) and £ 3½ million for trade purposes. These loans were to be redeemed with Turkish goods, especially tobacco. Besides, Britain and France undertook to buy annually raisins, figs and nuts worth £T10 million. These credits helped Turkey to improve her defences and enlarge her defence industries.

The entry of Italy into the war in the summer of 1940 and the collapse of France forced Turkey to review her international commitments in the light of vastly altered facts. The defeat of France changed the implications of the Anglo-French-Turkish Treaty and reduced a tripartite into a dual agreement. Turkey therefore felt no longer morally bound to give effect to her treaty undertaking. But she retained her alliance with Britain and speeded up her defence measures. All artisans in Istanbul were mobilised to complete the Straits fortifications.

November 1940—The Nazi Menace.

The fall of one small country after another before the onslaught of the Axis aggressors, and Nazi intrigues in N. E. Europe laid the carefully sponsored "*Balkan System*" *of Turkey in ruins.* Her one paramount consideration now was to preserve her own neutrality amidst a heap of crumbling nations. Opening the Grand National Assembly on Nov. 1, 1940, President Inunu uttered a warning to the Axis Powers: "**Our attitude of non-belligerency**", **he said,** "**makes absolutely impossible, with no exception whatsoever, the use of our territory, our seas, our skies, by the belligerents in action against each other, and will continue to make such use categorically and absolutely impossible so long as we take no part in the war. While remaining sensitive**", **he continued,** "**to all that affects our vital interests, we shall continue to be faithful to our friendships and alliances. At a time when Britain is carrying on under difficult conditions the heroic struggle for her very existence, it is my duty to proclaim that the bonds of alliance which unite us to her are solid and unbreakable.**"

But Turkey, aware of the fact that steel more than words was required to preserve her neutrality, concluded a trade agreement with Britain in December whereby she was to be supplied with heavy goods in addition to cotton, wool and other commodities needed by her peasant producers. In return the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation was to purchase Turkish products to the value of £T 8,600,000.

Rape of the Balkans.

Four years ago Kemal Ataturk called the rulers of the Balkans to Ankara to reveal to them the hideous shape of things to come. But he could not bring the Yugoslavs and the Greeks and the Bulgars to a common understanding. When therefore the Germans struck against the Balkans last April their advance guards had paved the way. Only Greece and

Yugoslavia stood fast. Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, economically unsound, politically unstable, undermined by distrust and suspicion and by German threats and promises, opened their front doors and placed their roads and railways at Germany's disposal. The Balkans were engulfed. Not even a gallant last minute revolt in Yugoslavia could stem the tide. The harm of years was not destined to be undone in ten days; and with Yugoslavia Greece too was overrun. The Balkan peoples ceased to be independent and sovereign nations.

January 1941—The Eden—Dill visits.

Early in January 1941, Anglo-Turkish commercial and political agreements were reinforced by military conversations in Ankara between the Turkish General Staff and the British Army and Air chiefs in the Middle East. During the following month Mr. Eden and Sir John Dill arrived in Ankara for further talks with the Premier, the Foreign Minister and the Chief of Staff—Marshal Chakmak. "**Ankara**", **said the Turkish radio**, "**is in a ferment of excitement. Everywhere they go (Mr. Eden and Sir John Dill) they meet with overwhelming expressions of Turkey's steadfast friendship for Britain.**"

April 1941—Turco-German Understanding.

But neither the political alliance nor the military talks implied that Turkey had ceased to be neutral. On the contrary her close relations with Britain have served as a guarantee that her neutrality will not be violated by Germany and her satellites. Nor did the Anglo-Turkish alliance preclude the possibility of Turkey concluding economic pacts with the Axis Powers. A commercial agreement with Germany was actually concluded in April, providing for the supply of Turkish tobacco up to £T10 million in exchange for German machinery and arms. Following the agreement German industrialists, businessmen and agricultural experts arrived in Turkey in large numbers "to arrange" for the expansion of Turco-German trade. Within two months of the commercial pact a treaty of friendship was signed with Germany in Ankara "within the limits of the present commitments of both countries", valid for 10 years. **This treaty was concluded with the full knowledge of Britain, and it did not conflict with Turkey's obligations under the Anglo-Turkish Pact.** It was a negative agreement, negotiated mainly because the overthrow of the Balkan powers had considerably weakened Turkey's strategic position. **Turkey firmly resisted the German pressure to abrogate the Anglo-Turkish Pact. She preserved her neutrality and maintained her sovereignty and territorial integrity. At the same time she refused the German demand of passage of troops through Anatolia.** The *Ulus* explaining the situation wrote: "We are not renewing our friendship with Germany, nor are we trying to repair old friendship. There exists no direct discord between us and Germany. We will remain neutral in complications

centring around Turkey. We shall not be an instrument of aggression against our own ally Britain... The treaty does not spell any change in our national policy". **The pact removed any immediate possibility of a German drive to the Middle East through Turkey, and as such was of direct value to Britain.**

June 1941—The Anglo-Soviet declaration.

When Germany invaded Russia in the summer of 1941, the Turkish Foreign Minister expressed the hope that all belligerents would respect Turkish neutrality. The Germans in answer renewed their demand for the passage of troops through Turkey. Turkey retorted by declaring the Dardanelles a military area. In contrast to the German demand we have the joint declaration of the British and Soviet Governments presented to the Turkish Foreign Minister on August 10, 1941. "His Majesty's Government as also the Soviet Government", said the Declaration, "are prepared scrupulously to observe the territorial integrity of the Turkish Republic. **While fully appreciating the desire of the Turkish Government not to be involved in war, His Majesty's Government as also the Soviet Government would nevertheless be prepared to render Turkey every help and assistance in the event of her being attacked by a European Power.**"

September 1941—Nazi War of Nerves.

In Germany there was talk that Turkey was not playing open cards. "The Reich Government" it was said, "cannot any longer conceal that the situation is dangerously acute". German propaganda now began a war of nerves varying in method and intermittent in intensity, in an attempt to undermine Turkish neutrality. Nazi fifth column activity in Turkey was already in full swing in the autumn of 1939. A section of the Turkish press was influenced with bribes to publish articles favourable to Germany. When the offices of the *Turkishche Post*—a German publication—were raided, the Turkish police authorities discovered large stocks of German propaganda material. The editor is reported to have stated that he was acting under the instructions of the German Embassy. *Tan*, a Turkish paper, declared that it had proof that all Germans in Turkey were Nazi agents, and added that it had been offered money to publish pro-German articles. A refusal to do so was followed by the threat of a German firm to withdraw their advertisements from its columns. The *Yeni Sabah* openly accused Germany of carrying on intrigues under cover of its Embassy's diplomatic immunity, and invited the Turkish Government to put an end to this abuse of privilege.

Turkey's Reaction.

The Government took firm measures against Nazi activities. It arrested eight German spies, closed the premises of the *Turkishche Post*, strengthened

military defences and informed the German officers attached to the Turkish forces that their service were no longer required. **In all some one hundred German technical experts were ordered to return to Germany. They included naval engineers in the Krupp yard on the Golden Horn, specialists at the naval base at Gueldjuk and mining engineers in coal pits at Zonguldak. By 1941 even German governesses and nurses had been ordered to leave the country within 15 days.**

The 'New Order'

The Turco-German Commercial agreement of July which arranged for an exchange of goods worth about £T22,000,000, was a failure from the German economic point of view, because it did not provide for export to Germany of her chief requirement—chrome, which Turkey had undertaken to supply to Britain. But it served a useful purpose as an aid to German propaganda and fifth column activity. Meanwhile the Reich Ambassador Von Papen was holding out to Turkey the advantages of the so-called "New Order". "If Turkey accepts the new order in Europe", he said, "Germany and Italy will respect Turkish independence." But Turkey, alarmed at the Italian invasion of Greece, saw the real significance of the New Order. M. Yalcin interpreted in the *Yeni Sabah* its meaning for the Turks. **"What are the advantages of the New Order which destroyed Rumania the moment it entered there?"**, asked **the journalist Deputy. "So far as Turkey can see," he wrote, "it connotes a state of slavery for every power but Germany and Italy, and the boasted equality in the New Order means nothing but equality in slavery."**

October 1941—Economic Sledgehammer.

A prodigious attempt to seduce Turkey from her alliance with Great Britain came on the occasion of Dr. Clodius' visit to Ankara at the end of September 1941. He arrived with 35 German delegates with the intention of bringing the country under the economic yoke of Nazidom. As the delegation crossed the Bosphorous into Anatolia German agents spread reports which said "Tomorrow (Monday, September 29, 1941) will be the most critical day in the history of modern Turkey". While Clodius negotiated, the Reich exerted political pressure. Rumours were spread that Britain and Russia had planned the partition of Turkey. Nazi troops were concentrated on the Turkish border. Turkey was the subject of a conference in Berlin in which Hitler, Ribbentrop and Von Papen participated. General Rohde, the German military and air attaché in Ankara was recalled to attend the Conference. It looked as if Turkey might be invaded any moment. That was the atmosphere in which Clodius and his 35 colleagues carried on their trade negotiations, offered to supply Turkey all she required despite the fact that already German payments to Turkey were £8,000,000 short. **All this Nazi swagger and intimidation was designed to force Turkey to agree to the German demand for**

chrome, a commodity which the Reich badly needs. But according to the Anglo-Turkish commercial agreement Turkey is liable to supply Britain with chrome until January 1943. The German game was to force the Turkish government to break its commercial agreement with Britain. This Turkey refused to do. As to German military threats President Ineunu declared: "Our national existence and unity are not given us by others. What is ours to-day and will be ours to-morrow is the creation of our will and ours alone."

Clodius and Chrome.

The Turco-German trade agreement was signed late in October. The terms of the agreement indicate the extent of German failure. Turkey undertook to supply Germany with 90,000 tons of chrome a year, (and not 150,000 tons as demanded by Clodius) after the expiry of Turkey's agreement with Britain in January 1943, and on condition that war material ordered from Germany to the value of £T18,000,000 is delivered to Turkey by the end of 1942. If the Clodius Mission was a feeler to test the strength of Anglo-Turkish engagements, the Nazis were left in no doubt. Dr. Saydam, the Prime Minister, in a broadcast on the occasion of the Turkish National Day further enlightened them on the determination of the Turks to resist aggression. **"We want every Turkish citizen to know" he said "that the danger is still there and not passed. Our heroic army is stronger than yesterday, and will be yet stronger to-morrow. We have full confidence in it."**

Tobacco and Tomahawks.

Great Britain and Turkey have entered into wide arrangements for trading together more fully and profitably. During the year ended May 1941, 35 million Turkish Pounds worth of goods entered and left Turkey despite the Axis U-boat menace. Mohair, timber, emery, dried fruit, tobacco, hemp and olive oil were in the list of Turkish exports, while imports from Britain and other countries arranged by the United Kingdom Commercial Corporation included locomotives and railway wagons worth three quarters of a million pounds, tyres, sugar, cotton yarn, rubber, machinery for Turkish mines and spare parts for the factories. **When Germany was unable to supply Turkey with spare parts for the German made Heinkel aircraft, Great Britain supplied them from Heinkels shot down over Britain. By October last year Britain was supplying Turkey with Hurricanes and American-built Tomahawk fighters.** In addition R. A. F. Instructors were lent to the Turkish Air Force to train Turkish pilots, while Turkish ground crews were given training in Egypt. Apart from machinery Britain has already shipped to Turkey 40,000 tons of wheat, and another 30,000 tons still remain to be shipped.

Turco-German Trade.

Turco-German trade relations on the other hand have failed to run smoothly: The three German Trusts responsible for carrying out Germany's trade agreement with the Turkey are the Hermann Goering Works, Krupps, and Humboldt Deutsch. They undertook to supply semi-finished steel products, armaments, machinery and motors, but tried to palm off on Turkey goods previously ordered by Russsia. These however did not suit Turkish requirements and the Turks have refused to accept them. **That the Germans habitually use economic agreements as a means of political domination and blackmail is well known. On the other hand it is obvious that Great Britain regards her commercial pacts as arrangemements for sheer give-and-take on a basis of freedom and equality.**

Military Blackmail.

Dr. Clodius' failure was the failure of the German economic weapon in their war of nerves. Hitler therefore intensified the application of military blackmail. The Bulgarian frontier was several times closed, German and Bulgarian troops were massed along the Thracian border, withdrawn and massed again. Grand Admiral Raeder went to Bulgaria to prepare as was rumoured for, an invasion of Turkey from the Black Sea. Turkey however, remained as calm and prepared as ever. But when the Vice-President of the Bulgarian Parliament backed by the Nazis referred in a speech to "Bulgarian territories to the South of Bulgaria not yet occupied by Bulgarian armies and not yet under Bulgarian administration", the Turkish press barked defiance: **Said the *Ikdam*: "If he is referring to Turkish Thrace, our answer is 'come and try to get it';" and the *Yeni Sabah* added; "South of Turkey is the British Army which could if necessary come to the help of the Turks".** That the Axis might exert pressure on Turkey from Bulgaria was always considered a possibility by the Turks. But the formidable army of Turkish forces on the western frontier and the nation-wide determination to resist aggression, as well as the strong backing of Britain and the Soviet Union, have so far been valid arguments against an Axis military adventure in Turkey.

November 1941—The Schmidt Mission.

Following on the failure of the Clodius Delegation Dr. Paul Schmidt, the Wilhelmstrasse Press Chief, was sent out to Ankara on November 17, at the head of a 7-man Press Mission to attempt and introduce a pro-Axis bias in the Turkish press. The Turkish press is free and expresses its opinions freely, facts which are anathema to the Nazis. Dr. Schmidt, forgetting that he was in a free country, adopted a tone during the conversations which was typical of Wilhelmstrasse arrogance. He demanded the muzzling of the press and the termination of American broadcasts from Ankara. **He was informed firmly that**

the editorial policy of the Turkish newspapers was directed by the editors themselves and that the freedom of the Turkish press would not be muzzled. Schmidt went back no more successful than Clodius.

December 1941—Lease-Lend Aid.

Last year in December President Roosvelt announced the extension of American Lease and Lend facilities to Turkey whose defence he considered "vital to the defence of the United States". Turkey expressed her satisfaction at the prospect of improving her defences with American aid, but at the same time emphasised that her acceptance of President Roosvelt's offer in no way affected her policy of neutrality. Throughout the two and a half years of war Turkey has steered a neutral course and is determined to keep to that course. "Our foreign policy" declared Dr. Saydam the Prime Minister in a speech last February, "decided at the beginning of the world crisis has lost nothing of its character......We stand by what we said and what we decided."

January 1942—The Bolshevik Bogey.

The latest German project in the war of nerves is to sow suspicion in the Turkish mind against Britain and Russia. Last January German propaganda alleged that Mr. John MacMurray, former United States Ambassador to Turkey had made a press statement to the effect that Russian territorial ambitions embraced the Dardanelles. By adopting this line of propaganda the Nazis had hoped to weaken the bonds of Turkey's friendship with the Allies. But the national attitude towards the Allies was effectively displayed by M. Yalcin, the highly respected Deputy and editor of the *Yeni Sabah*, who wrote: "**We have been friends with the Soviet Union since the foundation of the Turkish Republic. (A Turco-Soviet Pact was concluded as early as 1921). We have confidence in them. It is the conviction of the highest political personalties in Ankara that no doubt exists in Turkey about the good intentions and friendly relations between the Allies and their friends the Turks.**" The fact that later on Mr. MacMurray's denial of the alleged statement was published in the Turkish Press seems to have made no impression on Dr. Goebbels. After the conclusion of the Anglo-Russian talks at Moscow (January 1942) he made another attempt to create a rift between Turkey and the Allies. Once more it was alleged that Britain had sacrificed Turkey to Russia. A lurid picture of a victorious Russia which Britain and the United States would be unable to hold in check in Europe was painted for the benefit of the Turks. It was stressed that Britain is not interested in the fate of Europe; therefore she would grant concessions to Russia which the "good European Hitler" refused to give.

In the British Parliament, Mr. Eden, the Foreign Secretary, explained that the scope of the talks was confined to the joint prosecution of the war, and that nothing prejudicial to Turkish interests was discussed. "**Turkey**",

Mr. Eden is reported to have said, "has nothing to fear from Russia, which adhered firmly to the Anglo-Soviet assurances given to Turkey last summer." In Ankara the Turkish Foreign Minister M. Sarajoglu was reported to have been most satisfied with the report of the Moscow Conference as given by the British Ambassador, Sir Hugh Knatchbull Hugessen, who doubtless repeated the gist of his conversation with M. Molotov at the Kremlin. Turkey expressed satisfaction at the friendly assurances given by Mr. Eden and the British Ambassador.

February 1942—Sir Stafford's Bristol speech.

But these firm Turkish declarations of confidence in the Allies have so far left Dr. Goebbels unabashed. Sir Stafford Cripps's speech at Bristol on February 9, 1942, was the signal for a fresh outburst from Berlin of the Bolshevik-Bogey-propaganda. The Turks were told that the former British Ambassador to Russia had said that after an allied victory the Soviet Union would determine the destinies of the continent of Europe including that of Turkey.

What Sir Stafford said at Bristol was: "I am perfectly convinced that the Soviet Government has no desire to interfere in any way with the other governments of Europe. There is in Communism a great deal to be admired; there is a great deal which one would not wish to see in ones own country." And he added, "the Soviet Government have an immense task of their own; they have no desire for imperialistic expansion." These views didn't suit the Nazi radio at all so it just reversed them. "Its quite obvious", it said, "that Cripps has been ordered by Stalin to Bolshevise Britain." The word "bolshevism" is used by the Nazi radio to frighten its listeners with different definitions for different audiences. What it really means to the Nazis is anything which resists their scheme of world domination. The Turks, however, have refused to be frightened by the Nazi-manufactured scarecrow of bolshevism, and what is more significant they understand its meaning. Under the title "Europe's Contribution of Blood", A. E. Yalman explained the significance of "bolshevism" in the *Vatan* of December 3, 1941. "**Under cover of a crusade against bolshevism**" **he wrote, "the toll of cannon-fodder is levied on countries such as Rumania. In Russia men are dying by thousands every day. They must be replaced, and so a fettered Europe is made to bleed.**"

Turkey's Attitude.

It is obvious from the tone of the free Turkish press that the friendship pact with Germany, German press and commercial missions, military threats and the ersatz bolshevik bogey have all failed to damp the resolution of the Turks to maintain their independence. While maintaining a neutral and admirably objective standpoint in their press commentaries on the war, they

still find themselves persuaded, despite the virulence of Nazi propaganda, that the Allies are on the side of Right and that they are assured of ultimate victory.

Turkey's Neutrality.

Turkey as a neutral bastion of defence still holding back the disaster of war from the Middle East has been of great value to the Allies. If she had allowed herself to be overrun by consent or fraud, then, clearly, the situation of her neighbours in the east (Iraq, Iran) and south (Syria) would have been precarious. Her neutrality enabled the forces of the British Commonwealth to defeat with comparative ease Nazi designs in Syria, Iraq and Iran, and gave them invaluable time in which to build up their defences and lines of supply. Conversely, the recent liquidation of hostile forces, influences and intrigues from Syria, Iraq and Iran has not only strengthened the allied position in the Middle East but has also incalculably fortified indirectly Turkey's European front against a possible Nazi attack. Nejmeddin Sadak writting in the *Aksam* said : "Not only Turkey but England herself has also derived profit by our neutrality and even friendship with England's enemy ".

Turkey's Sympathy.

Nevertheless, neutral Turkey's sympathies lie unmistakably with the democratic cause, and her front-line preparedness and firm resolution have kept back the German adventurers from the vital oil areas in the Caucasus, Iran and Iraq. Speaking of Turkey's services to Britain a Turkish journalist wrote : **"England will probably have many friends before this war is over, but only in Turkey will she have cause to remember a friend in bad times as in good." Turkey's loyalty to Britain in her darkest days—at the time of the collapse of France—justifies that statement.**

WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

11—4—42 to 17—4—42.

Burma.—In the first week of the month Marshal Chiang-Kai-Shek accompanied by Madame Chiang visited LASHIO, MANDALAY, MAYMYO and the Chinese front and conferred with the British and American commanders. Many important decisions were reached, relating to unification of command, supplies and communications.

The Japanese have resumed their advance north of TOUNGOO, which as already reported fell, after about a week's heroic fighting. Moving on a wide front the enemy has since attacked the Chinese and British positions, on the Swa River, north of TOUNGOO, at TAUNGDWINGYI and MIGYANGYE. MIGYANGYE has fallen but TAUNGDWINGYI holds. Between April 7 and 11, fierce fighting raged across the Swa River, the Chinese holding the northern bank and the enemy the southern. Breaking through YEDASHA the Japanese have advanced to a point south of THAGAYA and Chinese forces have withdrawn to MYOHLA, a few miles north of the Swa. Patrol activity prevails in the MAWCHI area.

Trincomalee.—It is now known that the attack on TRINCOMALEE on Thursday last was carried out by a large force of enemy bombers and fighters, of which 6 were destroyed for certain, 6 more, probably, and 4 more were struck, with a near miss on an aircraft-carrier. The British aircraft-carrier *Hermes* which put out to sea during the attack on the harbour was spotted from the air and sunk 10 miles off the coast.

The Bay of Bengal.—R. A. F. aircraft have carried out successful attacks over the ANDAMANS.

Philippines.—CORREGIDOR and FORT HUGHES are being savagely attacked by the enemy from the BATAAN PENINSULA and MANILA Bay.

12,000 Japanese troops have been landed on CEBU—one of the islands of the PHILIPPINES group but owing to fierce resistance they have not been able to advance beyond a few miles inland. The enemy has also landed on PANAY.

A U. S. Submarine has sunk a large heavily-armed Japanese vessel near the Celebes Sea. American bombers raided Japanese shipping in the PHILIPPINES, and sank 4 ships and damaged 4 others.

New Guinea.—The Japanese have been definitely put on the defensive in S. W. Pacific and their time-table has been upset. American and Australian bombers have attacked LAE, RABAUL and FAISI (Solomon Islands).

Russia.—Along the whole front from the Arctic to the Black Sea fierce battles are raging, and the Nazis are reported to be throwing in fresh units to save their garrisons. Despite the thaw which has converted the country into a sea of mud the Russian army gives the enemy no

pause. Marshal Timoshenko has made a deep breach north of KHARKOV. Incessant attacks and counter-attacks are being launched, particularly on the Central Front and in the Donetz basin. A battle is raging for the possession of the River Desna at BRIANSK.

An enemy transport of 7,000 tons was sunk in the Barents Sea. A big convoy of British, American, and Dutch ships has safely arrived at MURMANSK, despite enemy attacks.

As a result of heavy losses wholesale desertions are taking place in the German ranks. The deserters are said to be hiding in the woods and forests of POLAND and the Baltic States, pillaging German supply columns.

The Tragedy of Mariupol.—The horrible tale of the massacre of the inhabitants of MARIUPOL by the Germans has now been reported. On the capture of the place, and after the Jews and communists had been ordered to evacuate, all old men women and children, numbering between 2,000 and 3,000, were conveyed to a place seven miles from the town and shot.

Turkey.—Hitler is reported to be exerting pressure on TURKEY, and tempting her with offers of territory in THRACE, and a mandate over SYRIA. The BERLIN correspondent in MADRID writes: 'the moment has come when while the neutrality of TURKEY is worthy of respect the interests of EUROPE are worthy of even more respect.' Meanwhile, BRITAIN and AMERICA are doing their utmost to support TURKEY in her determination to continue her neutrality.

Libya.—The recent enemy activity at the southern end of the Axis has practically died out. Shelled on a coastal road west of GAZALA the enemy has now withdrawn from TEMRAD. SIDE BREGISCH, north-east of GADDELAHMAH, is now the furthest point the enemy has reached in the no-man's land between the opposing forces. It now appears that the purpose of Rommel's original advance was to forestall a British attack, and also to secure more freedom of action for his key aerodromes at MARTUBA, DERNA and TMIMI.

Malta.—In the last few days the attacks on Malta have slackened.

Vichy.—Affairs in VICHY are coming to a crisis. In reply to VICHY's protest to U. S. against the appointment of an American Consul-General at BRAZZAVILLE, thereby recognising the Free French Government, Mr. Sumner Welles, acting Secretary of State, U. S.,

has sent a strong note affirming U. S.'s determination to enter into relations with the French citizens in actual control of the French possessions, that is with the Free French. It also states that French West AFRICA did not as a matter of fact recognise VICHY, and VICHY being under German domination ceased to be a Sovereign State.

VICHY regards Mr. Welles' note as an 'insulting' document, designed for propaganda purposes, and states that 'French citizens do not require lessons in patriotism from a foreign Government.'

It is easy to see that all this has been written to German dictation. Of late, German pressure on Vichy has increased. Germans are particularly annoyed at the turn the Riom trial had taken, which instead of fastening the war guilt on FRANCE has proved only French unpreparedness. Another point of irritation is that VICHY did not take advantage of the British raids on the Renault and Poissy works to spread propaganda against BRITAIN. But chiefly, GERMANY wants to tighten her grip over FRANCE, before her spring offensive in RUSSIA begins, lest BRITAIN and AMERICA should attack her in the rear, with FRANCE joining the Allies. The fear is that if the Allies should invade all the burgeois, liberals, radicals, Socialists and Jews in France would desert and go over to the Allies. As Darlan is felt to be not sufficiently pro-German or strong enough to prevent all this, Laval, the perjured traitor is being recalled to power, though Pétain will continue to be the titular head. It is likely that Laval's first step, will be to try to use the French Fleet to recapture territories now held by the Free French such as SYRIA, and North-West AFRICA. The operations may even extend to MARTINIQUE, GUADELOUPE and ST. PIERRE in AMERICA. U.S. shipments of food to North AFRICA will not be resumed, and Admiral Leahy, U. S. Ambassador in VICHY may be recalled.

The Riom War Guilt Trial which began on February 19 has been indefinitely suspended.

Five Communists were shot in PARIS on April 2 as a reprisal for killing a German sentry. If those responsible for the attack were not discovered by Friday more Jewish and communist hostages were to be shot.

R. A. F. Raid on Turin on Sunday was designed to disorganise the great Ansaldo Fiat Works which are turning out war materials for GERMANY, and to interrupt communications by which GERMANY is transporting supplies to Rommel.

Norway.—Last week we had occasion to report the wholesale resignation of the OSLO clergy, refusing to preach the word of God to irreligious Nazi dictation. It is now known that 77 clergymen took part in the protest. In a moment of frenzy the Quisling minister for the Police ordered their arrest and the closure of all the churches. But at the eleventh hour the German authorities intervened and cancelled the order. The clergy have triumphed.

Miscellaneous.—(1) **Iran** has severed diplomatic relations with JAPAN.

(2) **Britain** has budgeted £ 5,286 million for 1942-43. In asking for this colossal figure Sir Kingsley Wood stated, 'The enemy is still at our gates and our vigilance must not be relaxed for a moment. But we can at least claim that as yet he has not established a bridgehead against our financial defences'.

(3) **The Madras war Fund** has reached the total of two crores. In a congratulatory message to H. E the Governor of Madras, H.E. the Viceroy states 'By adding to your total a crore during the past 12 months you have eclipsed your own previous record of a crore in the first 19 months of the war. This is a most convincing proof of your determination to do your utmost till final victory is won. **India is proud of you. Keep up the lead, Madras.**'

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

Date.	Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
6—4—42 (Monday).				
	GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY:—				
	Enemy supply ships off the NORWEGIAN Coast.	Both ships hit.	1 plane.	
NIGHT:—				
	Military and industrial objectives in the RUHR and the RHINELAND.		5 planes.	
	LIBYA. (By British planes).			
	Enemy troops in tne forward areas in CYRENAICA.			1 plane; some more damaged.
	Moles and shipping at BENGHAZI.			
	The landing grounds at BERKA.			

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
6-4-42 (Monday)—cont.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		19 planes.	59 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA (By American and British planes).			
LAE.			
BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
Jap forward troops in TOUNGOO Front.			
7—4—42 (Tuesday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
No information available about day and night air raids.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Offensive patrols over the forward areas of CYRENAICA.			
The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.			
The landing ground at BERKA.			
The aerodrome at DERNA.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and grounded aircraft along the whole front.		14 planes.	63 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
Reconnaissance over the Jap occupied part of the Island.			
8—4—42 (Wednesday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY :—			
Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL, the CALAIS and BOULOGNE areas.			

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
NIGHT :—			
Military objectives in HAMBURG and **other places** in north-west GERMANY.			
The docks at LE HAVRE.			
A convoy of enemy supply ships off the coast of JUTLAND.		8 planes.	
LIBYA. (By British planes)			
Military objectives at BENGAHZI and MARTUBA.			
CRETE. (By British planes).			
Aerodrome in CRETE.			12 planes.
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		6 planes.	30 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
RABAUL.			9 lanes.
NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
Patrol around the coast line.			
9—4—42 (Thursday).			
No information available about day operations.			
NIGHT :—			
Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and northern FRANCE.			6 planes.
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
The harbour and shipping at BENGHAZI.			
Aerodromes in CYRENAICA.			
CRETE. (By British planes).			
Aerodromes in CRETE.			

ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

Date. Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for Allies.	Aircraft losses for Enemies.
9—4—42 (Thursday)—cont.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		5 planes	9 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
The aerodrome at RABAUL.			
NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
LAE.			
10—4—42 (Friday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
Offensive sweeps over Northern FRANCE.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Offensive sweeps over the forward areas in CYRENAICA.			
The harbour at BENGHAZI.			
CRETE. (By British planes.)			
The aerodromes in CRETE.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and grounded aircraft along the whole front.		5 planes.	17 planes.
FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
Jap troops in the SITTANG valley front.			
11—4—42 (Saturday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
No information about day and night air activities.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Offensive sweeps over the forward areas in CYRENAICA.			
Military objectives in LIBYA.			
CRETE. (By British planes).			
Aerodromes in CRETE.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		2 planes.	5 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).			
Aerodromes and shipping at RABAUL.	Big fires started.		
NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
Aircraft on the ground at LAE.			
SOLOMON ISLANDS. (By American and British planes).			
FAISI.			
12—4—42 (Sunday).			
GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).			
DAY :—			
The railway yards at HAZE BROUCK.			
Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and northern FRANCE.		13 fighters and 1 bomber.	4 fighters.
NIGHT :—			
Military objectives in the RUHR.			
ITALY.			
TURIN.			
LIBYA. (By British planes).			
Enemy encampments, motor transport and gun positions in the TMIMI area.			
The harbour installations at BENGHAZI.			
RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).			
Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.		3 planes.	8 planes.
FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).			
LAE. **TIMOR** (Dutch). **Shipping in the harbour and the aerodromes** at KOEPANG.		-	4
BURMA. (By American and British planes).			
The aerodrome at TOUNGOO.			

ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

Date. / Targets.	Damage caused by air bombardment.	Aircraft losses for: Enemies.	Aircraft losses for: Allies.
7—4—42 (Tuesday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—			
A few places on the east coast of ENGLAND.	Slight damage and a few people injured.	1 plane.	
EGYPT. (By German planes).			
ALEXANDRIA.		2 planes.	
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		4 planes. Many more damaged	
FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes).			
Port MORESBY.			
8—4—42 (Wednesday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
DAY :—			
A point on the east coast of ENGLAND.	A few casualties.		
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		9 planes.	
FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES, (By Jap planes).			
American troops in the forward areas of fighting.			
9—4—42 (Thursday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
A town on the south coast of ENGLAND.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.			
FAR EAST—SOLOMON. (By Jap planes).			
TULAGI.			
10—4—42 (Friday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		3 planes.	
FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES (By Jap planes).			
The fortress of CORREGIDOR.			
11—4—42 (Saturday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
No information available.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		Many planes shot down or damaged.	
FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes).			
Port MORESBY.		2 planes.	
12—4—42 (Sunday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—			
A point on the South-east coast of ENGLAND.			
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.			
FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES (By Jap planes).			
CORREGIDOR.			
13—4—42 (Monday).			
BRITAIN. (By German planes).			
NIGHT :—			
North-west of ENGLAND.	Slight damage.		
MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).			
MALTA.		2 planes.	
FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES. (By Jap planes).			
CORREGIDOR.			

SIDE LIGHTS.

'ENEMY BULLETS'. As the Chinese say, from wisdom born of experience, 'every rumour is an enemy bullet.' While there is possibly no fifth column in INDIA, rumour-mongering, arising out of a love of sensation is a standing danger. In the impressionable East irresponsible rumours originating in bazaar and street corners travel faster than telegraph or radio.

In Axis countries news is State-made and State-controlled. In JAPAN Radio sets tuned to foreign news are banned. In GERMANY listening to foreign news is death. In INDIA liberal traditions permit free listening and a free news-agency.

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'AKYAB' To take an instance, on April 2, CHUNGKING wrongly announced that AKYAB had fallen; the B. B. C. repeated it; but NEW-DELHI corrected it.

This freedom has its attendant danger. It gives a chance to rumour-mongering, and particularly to malicious enemy propaganda. But it is too much to expect NEW DELHI to collect, to collate and to disprove every enemy lie. The people should be on their guard.

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WOOING INDIA. We are led to make these observatious because at the moment JAPAN is making every propaganda effort to inveigle INDIA, especially since Sir Stafford Cripps' arrival. 'JAPAN is anxiously awaiting your decision this way or that', said a TOKYO broadcast to INDIA on April 6. General Tojo told INDIA last week that 'it was farthest from the thought of JAPAN to consider the Indian people as enemies. JAPAN deeply sympathises with those who are likely to suffer the ravages of war.' We are promised 'independence' and 'co-prosperity'. We are gratuitously told of 'wholesale desertions' of Indian soldiers to the Japanese side, of the 'kindness, courtesy and forbearance' shown to the Asiatics in contradistinction to the Europeans in Japanese conquered territory, and of Europeans abandoning the Asiatics to their fate when the Allied lines gave away.

The '*Azad Hind*', TOKYO's accomplice in BERLIN put out the rumour the other day of a criminal assault on two Indian girls—film stars, by Australian soldiers in BOMBAY—and the story was promptly denied by one of the 'girls' while the other, it was proved, had never been in BOMBAY since November and had not even heard the story.

A few weeks ago, a number of contradictory stories were propagated about Wavell, that he was 'wounded', 'ill' and 'dead'; in hospital. in 'BANGALORE', in 'CEYLON'.

To these vicious propaganda emanating from enemy sources, lively imagination and facile Indian tongues—have added thrills, that the Japanese were going to bomb or had already bombed MADRAS, CALCUTTA, CHITTAGONG, BANGALORE, and JAMSHEDPUR on particular days.

The appropriate attitude to such lying rumours is one, not of indifference, but of direct denial and repudiation, till confirmation comes from Government sources. Japanese raids on coastal cities are no doubt a possibility, but we may be sure that in such cases Government would give a timely warning before the event where possible, or issue reliable news when anything has, occurred, as was the case when COLOMBO and TRINCOMALEE, VIZAGAPATAM and COCANADA were attacked.

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COASTAL RAIDS. More facts have now emerged about the recent attacks on COLOMBO and the coastal towns in INDIA. It is now known that three enemy battleships, five aircraft-carriers (one probably of 28,000 tons carrying about 60 planes) and a number of cruisers took part in the action. The damage to CEYLON's shore establishments was severe—but not more severe than that to the enemy's aircraft.

The Japanese reason for selecting Colombo for the first attack was its focal situation at the junction of the trade routes to AFRICA and AUSTRALIA. Here in peace time more shipping enters than in all the other Indian ports put together. COLOMBO is the headquarters of the Royal East Indies Squadron and TRINCOMALEE a naval Depót and fuel reserve. The enemy also knows that when the time for the counter-offensive becomes ripe, COLOMBO will be the Allied spearhead.

The announcement that the enemy planes were brought in aircraft-carriers, instead of flying from land bases, establishes the fact that the possession of the ANDAMANS has proved of no advantage to the Japanese. The ANDAMANS are at least 750 miles from the nearest point on the Indian main land, while no Japanese land-based plane can attack beyond 400 miles. Carrier ships, bearing the planes cannot long remain in the battle zones for fear of attack, and must make a round trip of about 2,500 miles to regain their bases. It is probable that the remnant of planes which remained intact after the severe loss at COLOMBO dropped a few bombs on VIZAGAPATAM and COCANADA, on the return voyage. This accounts for the feeble attack on these bases. In fact such raids can only be sporadic; for protracted bombardment land-bases near at hand are necessary.

Thus the ANDAMANS which are near enough to RANGOON—about 400 miles—and therefore an advantage to the enemy in one way are of no use, for raids on INDIA, which is about 750 miles away.

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THE 'FLYING FORTRESSES'. On the other hand, significant news has come that the American Flying Fortresses made their raid on the ANDAMANS from the Indian mainland, which means that they can fly twice as long as any Japanese can do.

These American Fortresses—a combination of bomber and fighter—are really wonderful types of planes. They can fly 7,000 feet higher than Mount Everest; between two and three thousand miles at a stretch without refuelling, and at a speed of more than 300 miles an hour carrying up to four tons of bombs. They have reached INDIA under their own power *via* the WEST INDIES and AFRICA. There is also a ferry service to the MIDDLE EAST *via* AFRICA, besides sea-routes across the South Atlantic, the Cape and the Arabian Sea.

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THE LESSON OF COLOMBO. During the attack on COLOMBO the enemy raided not only the harbour and the aerodrome but also the base hospital. Half the casualties were hospital patients. Apart from the inhumanity, the attacks cost the enemy two-thirds of his planes, and judged by the heavy enemy losses and our own light casualties the attack was a failure. All this, as Sir Geoffrey Layton observed, was not a matter of luck however; the defences were efficient and the people were alert. This is what makes for success; preparedness and morale.

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THE BURMESE FRONT. The withdrawal of Chinese forces from TOUNGOO to KYUNGON (10 miles) and of the British forces from PROME to THYATMEYO (30 miles) does not betoken any weakening of the Allied front. Bombed and shelled incessantly for over 5 days, the defence of TOUNGOO remains an epic feat. The Chinese forces withdrawn from TOUNGOO are intact, their morale as high as ever, with reinforcements from CHUNGKING continuously pouring in.

The British withdrawal, besides serving as a delaying action, has helped to shorten the line and so strengthen the defence, to maintain contact with the Chinese front and prevent an enemy outflanking movement.

The enemy has no doubt the advantage of the possession of RANGOON through which supplies can arrive. He has also been helped by the Thakins, a Youth Organisation which initially started under a benevolent Government has now been perverted by the enemy, and is used not only as interpreters and

guides but even as armed fighters against their own countrymen. The brave little Burmese army continues to fight gallantly by the side of its British and Indian comrades. The Japanese have paid heavily for every inch of ground gained.

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THE THAW. The Russian spring has been heralded by the setting in of the thaw, deluging the country and its communications. Hitler hopes to use this 'damp immobility' as a screen behind which to make his spring preparations, and move up his troops by rail roads which are not cut off by the floods to the points of intended offensive.

This is why at the moment the Russians are making great efforts to cut off the Railway lines, or at least isolate important rail junctions. The Russians are also taking advantage of the season to strengthen their own front. Marshal Voroshilov is raising a great reserve army, to the east of ARCHANGEL, consisting of 75 infantry divisions, 20 reinforced tank divisions, 15 cavalry divisions and 12 motorised divisions. Budenny is raising strong cavalry and motorised units in Stalingrad. Taking advantage of the freshness of spring the whole Russian people are making the weapons of war and are busy with sowing operations in preparation for a rich summer harvest.

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THE SPRING BOGEY. Evidence accumulates to show that the much-advertised German offensive in spring may not be the bogey which the Nazis, with all their skill and consummate skill in propaganda, are making it out to be. We have the authority of '*Annalist*', who in a recent statement has said that for the first time German High Command, having lost the initiative, is kept guessing what the Allies are planning for. The Russian thrusts at BRIANSK and KHARKOV have cornered the enemy, who has now only two alternatives left, either to call up reserves or weaken the western front.

The **Marshal-Hopkins Special Mission** from White House has come to LONDON to urge the British Government to open a second front against the Nazis immediately. Its object is to 'discover BRITAIN's attitude to the question of invading EUROPE this summer', for which AMERICA is prepared to render 'more naval aid.'

In a recent article in the *Investia* M. Kalinin, the Soviet President, has stated that the Germans were no longer masters in air or on land, and the Don Basin is being gradually freed of the German pest. He also adds that in winter Hitler has lost at least 300,000 men from frost-bite alone.

'Wherever you go in GERMANY to-day', says a German communiqué 'in the market place or in the street, at the butcher's or the green-grocer's, in the restaurant or in the train, there is grumbling'

Hitler himself has said that he did not know how the year will end, and whether it will see the end of the war or not.

Whatever these declarations mean—and they do not certainly mean well for GERMANY—one thing is clear that the present situation on the Russian front is a definite improvement on the position on October 2, when Hitler declared that the Russian armies had been annihilated and the final assault on MOSCOW was about to be launched. Now Goebbels quotes Frederick the Great and calls for 'guts of iron and a stout heart.' Hitler exclaims, 'Give me back my legions.' Gone are the proud armies which conquered NORWAY and POLAND, FRANCE and GREECE. In Russian snow they lie fathom deep and Hitler's burial squads are busy dis-interring and reburying them for fear of infection. In their place stand the hirelings from RUMANIA and HUNGARY and perhaps BULGARIA—the weak-kneed Italians and the exhausted Finns.

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NET RESULT. What then is the net result of the winter campaign in RUSSIA?

1. The Germans, of course, in their own clever way, declare that the winter efforts on the part of RUSSIA have been a 'dismal failure,' while their own front 'stood', from which they were going to launch a fresh offensive.

2. It is also true that with the best Russian efforts LENINGRAD has not yet been relieved and the vital railway links at VITELESK, OREL, KHARKOV and the CRIMEA still hold.

3. On the other hand a 'regular front' has been destroyed, and each side has penetrated the other's lines at certain points. Either side may develop these forward positions into offensive centres.

4. At LENINGRAD, though the German siege continues, the German lines have been battered.

5. Were the besieged German Garrison at STARAYA RUSSA to collapse it would be a major disaster.

6. Though no spectacular results have been witnessed before MOSCOW the German resistance there has been weakened.

7. In the South the Germans have been bye-passed at several points.

8. Below KHARKOV all German communications have been blocked except two.

What then is the net result? The Russians and the Germans are interlocked in advanced wedges and the German railway junction points are disintegrating at vital positions.

Between 150 and 200 German divisions have been mauled and battered and some 40 divisions reserved for spring have been called up. No doubt the Russians also have suffered losses, but their reservior of strength is greater than that of the Germans and fresh armies are being raised from their limitless population.

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'PROTECTORS OF ISLAM.' Judged by Axis protestations, there seems to be no end of the hierarchy of Islamic protectors. It may be said it has become an Axis tradition during recent years—Wilhelm II, Mussolini the Caudillo (General Franco calls himself the Protector of the Arabs), Marshal Pétain (he was the Arab friend when the Allies marched into SYRIA), and of course, Hitler whose 'protection' has taken the following turn in POLAND :—

"The Nazis have launched a new persecution of Moslems in POLAND. The Imam of the Warsaw Mosque, Sheikh Ali Ismail Vornovitch, and many other leading Moslems have been sent to concentration camps in GERMANY. Some are even reported to have been beaten and tortured to death by the Nazis.

"All mosques in POLAND have been closed; the daily prayers are forbidden. In SLOFIM the Mosque is being used as a garage, and a delegation of Moslems who went to protest against the desecration of their Mosque were shot without trial.

"The Mufti of POLAND, Dr. Shinevitch was insulted by the Nazis when he lodged an official protest against such persecution.

"Moslems have lived in POLAND for five centuries. Polish Governments have always allowed them complete freedom of worship and the right to build Mosques. Polish Moslems have always had equal rights with other Polish citizens".

The following extract from *Yeni Sabah* should be read by every lover and follower of Islam :—

"If the Head of a State is a man of philosophical culture, it is not surprising that he should be a friend of Islam; *but if people without any religious feelings declare themselves friends of Islam, it is pretty clear that their sentiments are not sincere.*

"If the late Wilhelm II had felt so much friendship for the Mussalmans and for Islam, he should have shown it by adopting the Islamic faith, but even if Wilhelm had embraced Islam, it would not necessarily have produced a pro-Islamic policy, because this religion is international.

"**Further, when one hears the Fuehrer or the Duce speaking to-day of friendship for the Mussalmans, one cannot but consider that as an insult to the Mussalman world.** It proves that these leaders have a pretty poor idea of the intelligence of Mussalman nations.

"*Italy and Germany allege that they are friends of the Mussalman nations and desire to save them from British domination. Who would believe that these gentlemen, who are the bitter enemies of Christian nations, would have so much love for the Mussalman nations? They would be well advised to cease invading Christian countries and shooting innocent hostages.*"

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THE WAR OF NERVES has been re-started in TURKEY. Ever since Mr. Eden's visit to TURKEY last year, the Nazis have been hard at work bullying and frightening the brave Turks, by methods ranging from that of the sharper to intimidation. At the moment, Papen's visit to Hitler's headquarters, Boris journey to BERLIN, the movement of Bulgarian troops towards the Turkish frontier, and the deliberate inclusion of Turkish Thrace, the Straits, and ISTANBUL in a map of 'New EUROPE' published in Turkish by the German propaganda department, are the latest means adopted to bamboozle TURKEY. To this may be added the attempt to bribe TURKEY by the offer of IRAQ, SYRIA, and the Caucasus—a step which Al Hawadith of BAGHDAD describes as 'the last proof of the hypocrisy and deceit of the Nazis.'

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JAPANESE FIFTH-COLUMN. Startling facts of the existence of the Japanese fifth column have now come to light. A 40 year old colony of 20,000 Jap farmers, fishermen and lumbermen built the bases in DAVAO from which the Japanese have now launched their attacks. In north MALAYA the Japanese were helped by the local JAPANESE iron-miners and plantation-workers. The cotton-planters of Dutch NEW GUINEA formed a spy organisation for the Japanese. The long-range Japanese aircraft which bombed NEW GUINEA belonged to the TIMOR Commercial Air Service.

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WHEN THIEVES FALL OUT, that is, Hitler and Tojo, the Axis will split from pole to pole even without an allied battering. Despite official protestations of eternal friendship and identity of aims between

BERLIN and TOKYO, there is no doubt that so far as ASIA is concerned a clash between Japanese and German interests is bound to come, sooner or later; perhaps, very soon. Both Hitler and Tojo want 'living spaces' in ASIA for their countrymen. Hitler, as much as Tojo yearns for the riches of the East. Hitler will not be content with the riches of EUROPE and AFRICA; he wants Asian riches also. When he overran HOLLAND, he was concerned more with HOLLAND's overseas wealth, and laid violent hands on all the shares of the Dutch Colonial Companies and seized all their head offices in the mother country. But these 'titular rights' are of no use to Hitler after the Japanese conquest of JAVA and SUMATRA. So while Tojo declares that JAVA and SUMATRA have become Japanese provinces, 'Spokesmen of the Wilhelmstrasse' declare, that 'nothing definitive could be fixed until after the War.'

In INDIA GERMANY will permit JAPAN, if it can, to repeat what has happened to JAVA, but in the one case, as in the other Hitler will expect his 'fair share.' Since 1934 German 'Himalayan experts' have done spywork in INDIA; not long before the war broke out Dr. Schacht travelled all over INDIA on an exploratory mission, and now BERLIN harbours a number of malcontents from INDIA to do its dirty lying jobs.

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'WARSHIPS WEEKS' is in fact, an astonishingly successful British device for a savings campaign extending from the richest to the poorest. The idea is simple. Every city, town and district sets apart seven days as its 'Week' in which to collect a certain sum of money through war savings and gifts and these go to the building of warships. For instance, during its Warships Week London proposed to collect £ 125,000,000, the cost of a small fleet of 4 battleships, 3 aircraft-carriers, 5 cruisers, 38 destroyers and 3 submarines. Vast as is the sum it has been over subscribed. The biggest subscriptions from the rich, from banks, etc., are adjusted to Government loans and war-bonds, but the main effort is directed to the savings of the 'small people' which are secured by the sale of National Savings Certificates at 15 *s.* each made up of six penny stamps bought from time to time.

BRITAIN has held 145 such 'Weeks'. In each case the target was a colossal figure but failure to reach the figure was exceptional.

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MATTERS INDIAN. (1) Col. Johnson, the personal envoy of President Roosevelt arrived in DELHI on April 4. His work is to supervise and co-ordinate the work of the American Technical Mission,

whose members are Dr. Henry Grady—specialist in economics, A. W. Harrington—specialist in production of armoured vehicles, H. E. Beyster—organiser of factories for maximum output and D. Dekker—specialist in transforming man-power into labour-power.

(2) The Food Production Conference which met in DELHI on April 7 has started a 'Grow-More-Food Campaign'. A Central Food Advisory Council has been proposed. As the Viceroy told the Conference in a message, the steps now proposed to be taken will be not only a distinct contribution to the war effort but also prove of lasting benefit when peace returns.

(3) Another body which met in the course of the week (April 8) was the National Defence Council, to go into the question of Indians in the Japanese controlled territories, the evacuation of Indians from MALAYA and BURMA, and the progress of civil defence measures in INDIA.

(4) The Standing Emigration Committe which met on April 3 and 4 reviewed the measures taken to look after the Indian communities in BURMA.

R. A. F. War on the Ruhr.

GERMANY'S INDUSTRIAL HEART TO BE HAMMERED.

by

Wing-Commander L. V. Fraser.

The Bomber Command of the R. A. F. has seized the opportunity afforded by the recent improvement in the weather over Europe to make several heavy attacks on Germany. In part these have been operations against German naval bases, but other attacks have been directed against German industry and provided further steps in the R. A. F's policy of strategic bombing.

For three nights running in the second week of March powerful forces of British bombers were over the Ruhr, the vulnerable heart of German industry. Take the attack on the Thyssen steel works, near Hamborn, by only a small number of R. A. F. bombers out of a great force over the Ruhr on the night of March 9. It was a good example of the systematic way in which R. A. F. bomber crews go about their work of destruction.

WHAT PHOTOGRAPHS SHOW.

The target was one of the most important industrial plants of the Ruhr Almost every stage of that attack was recorded in a series of photographs taken in the act of bombing, and these photographs tell a significant story of progressive destruction.

As bomb after bomb explodes, you can see fires, particularly in the north-east corner of the works, getting larger and larger, and a huge pall of smoke gradually covering the factory. Then under a dense cloud of smoke there is an enormous flash—one of the R. A. F's heaviest bombs bursting right among the fires.

The whole area of the Ruhr is only about twice the area of Berlin, yet from within this space comes 75 per cent of Germany's coal, 84 per cent of her coke, and 70 per cent of her crude iron and steel. Modern methods of industry and transport have made it less necessary than in the past for factories to be placed near the raw materials which they use or the sources of fuel which they burn. But it is in these heavy industrial plants that steel plating is produced which will be made up in factories elsewhere, or the main bodies of tanks may be made in the steel works and the whole machine assembled elsewhere.

The Renault works near Paris, a typical example of a modern armament factory placed far from any black country, must have been entirely dependent on the iron and steel works of Lille, and when the factories and power plants in this area were so effectively bombed last summer, it may well be that the Germans had to send material from the Ruhr to Paris.

GERMANY'S "VITAL NERVE."

Certainly the whole economy of Germany and, indeed, of Middle Europe, depends on the Ruhr. Once again the German official guide book and propaganda book issued not long before the war hits the mark. "This region," it says, "is Germany's source of strength and vital nerve." Again: "The Ruhr is the largest workshop in Europe. There can be no question of Germany getting on without the Ruhr by transferring industries elsewhere." In fact the existence of the Ruhr does much to cancel the advantage Germany might appear to have over Britain because she has a much greater area over which to spread her industries.

It has sometimes been argued that the strategic bombing of Germany (blockade by bombing) is an impracticable policy because her industrial towns are too widely scattered. Such arguments ignore the existence of the Ruhr. Nor has there ever been any sign that Germany is prepared to cut her losses in the Ruhr. On the contrary, when the Krupps works were damaged last summer, it is known that an army of a thousand workmen was at once set to work on repairs.

MOHAMMEDANISM IN CHINA.

50,000,000 ADHERENTS TO-DAY.

With 50,000,000 Muslims, China has probably a larger Mohammedan population than any other country except India. According to Chinese history, Mohammedanism made its advent in China in 628 A. D. in the time of the Tang dynasty. From Islamic records we find that the governments of Muslim nations began to pay tribute to the Tang Emperor in A. D. 651.

Thereafter, with the development of trade, the number of adherents of Islam in China gradually increased until now after 13 centuries China has 50,000,000 Muslims.

Islam came to China by two routes—from the south by sea and from the west by land. The former route, starting from the Arabian Sea and passing through the Bay of Bengal and the Straits of Malacca, touched the coastal provinces of Kwangtung, Fukien and Chekiang.

Later, Muslims came to China by the overland route via Persia and Afghanistan into Sinkiang, whence they made their way eastward and settled in the north-western provinces of China, particularly in Shensi and Kansu.

It is recorded that in A. D. 755 the Caliph Abu Jafar sent 4,000 Arabian soldiers to China at the request of the Chinese Government, to help in quelling a rebellion. These men rendered useful service, and most of them stayed on in China, where many of their direct descendants are still to be found.

Recently, a Chinese Mohammedan Educational Association was formed. Its activities have included the translation of the Koran into Chinese, the establishment of Mohammedan normal schools, and international cultural contacts with other Mohammedan countries. Students have been sent to Cairo to study, and the King of Egypt has been invited to send learned Mohammedans to China to teach Arabic and other subjects. Mohammedan literature has been imported from India, Egypt, Mecca and Turkey and many meetings for discussions on Islamic subjects are held.

JAPANESE REGIME IN HONG KONG.

ESCAPED ENGLISHWOMAN'S STORY.

Miss Phyllis Harrop, one of the British women who escaped from Hong Kong after the Japanese captured the colony, game me an account of the conditions prevailing there under enemy occupation, cables the *Daily*

Telegraph's Chungking correspondent. Miss Harrop, who was an assistant in the Hong Kong Secretariat of Chinese Affairs, said :—

"I myself saw two out of the many wounded British soldiers left on the battle grounds on the hills over a week after the surrender. Their condition was pitiable. One who had been badly shot up and had a broken leg crawled three days and three nights to an emergency hospital—a distance of about four miles. He was without food and water, and arrived completely exhausted.

" An Indian soldier with a severe neck wound crawled a similar distance and was eventually found near a hospital in a dying condition, but was saved.

DEATHS FROM EXPOSURE.

" There were many such cases. Some were helped by Chinese villagers. A great number died from relatively light wounds due to exposure, in some cases lasting as long as ten days. In innumerable cases soldiers were found only when the bodies had decomposed. The hillsides are now the graves of many unknown British soldiers.

" Most of the raping of women concerned volunteer and professional nurses. In one district, apart from many Chinese cases seven European women were killed with bayonets after being raped. A British merchant whose wife was my friend told me himself :—

" 'I was a wounded A. F. S. volunteer. I was taken to a hospital where my wife was a volunteer nurse. I heard her voice next door on Christmas Day at 3 p. m., the hour when the colony surrendered.

" 'Shooting Japanese came into the hospital and I heard shouts, After a while I managed to get out to search for my wife. I found her dead—outraged, her face slashed, and bayonet wounds in her stomach. Others were also raped and killed.

" 'I hid under a bed, pressing against the wall beside my wife's body, trying to escape the Japanese, who stormed all over the place. Coming into the room the Japanese without looking under the beds systematically bayoneted through all the mattresses, again stabbing my wife's body and almost killing me. I myself buried my wife nearby'.

CHINESE TORTURED.

" There were many other similar cases among the foreign community, especially among the Chinese. In my own block of flats, where I was the only foreigner, of 40 Chinese practically all women were raped and all men bayoneted.

"While atrocities against foreigners ceased with their internment, those against the Chinese went on. I myself saw on the water front at the end of January a long queue of Chinese standing waiting, when the Japanese without reason beat up at least a dozen men and women with bamboo poles and threw them into the harbour to drown. I walked along the harbour past the bodies of Chinese who had been killed.

"A Chinese woman of about 22 was stopped at the corner of Wydnham Street and stripped by Japanese soldiers and made to stand naked in the middle of the road. She was still standing there when I passed by an hour later.

COLONIAL SECRETARY ARRESTED.

"The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Gimson, who arrived in Hong Kong only a day before the outbreak of war, protested in a letter to the Japanese against the atrocities after the surrender. Next day he was arrested and gaoled in the central prison.

"The Japanese took off the golden Royal Crown badges from the caps and sleeves of all Hong Kong's constables, who continued policing the streets until their internment. I met a constable I knew walking about the centre of the city wearing his badges. I asked him, 'How did you keep the crowns?' He pulled out of his pocket a handful of badges, saying, 'As fast as they are pulled off I put on fresh ones.' This is characteristic of Hong Kong's spirit."

MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENT.

4,000 SERBS KILLED FOR TEN GERMANS.

(Told by Professor Yovanovitch, Prime Minister of the Yugoslav Government in London, in an interview to George Slocombe, of the **Sunday Express***).*

'I have just received through the Vatican the first circumstantial report of a massacre which will go, even in the history of the German army, as unsurpassed in murderous cruelty.

Until three months after his invasion of Russia, Hitler was not informed of the stubborn resistance of the Serbian guerillas and communists. **When he learned the truth, he issued a drastic order that for every German soldier killed 100 Serbs would be shot and that 50 Serbs would be shot for every German wounded. Every house from which shots were fired would be burned to the ground and all males over 50 years of age found in it would be killed.**

Last October the communists attacked a German reprisals column just outside Kraguyevatch, in the heart of Serbia, and killed ten Germans and wounded about 26 others. At dawn on October 20 a large force of Germans surrounded the town, blocked all roads, and began to round up the male population. The inhabitants had no inkling of the fate destined for them and made no attempt to escape. All males between 15 and 50 were herded into the military barracks at Topovskesupe, where they spent the night in uncertainty but without apprehension.

In all between 7,000 and 8,000 Serbs were rounded up. The Germans took newspaper boys from the streets; cab drivers from their horse cabs; judges, counsel, witnesses and prisoners from the law courts; a number of priests and about 6,000 working men who were building an embankment on the river against floods. They seized all local merchants, artisans, apprentices and Jews, and even gipsies. Finally, they entered a secondary school, broke into the class-rooms and removed all pupils above 16 with all teachers and the elderly headmaster, M. Pantelitch.

At dawn on the following morning the Germans organised their prisoners in batches of 40 and marched them to the fields outside the town. There they were systematically mown down by machine-gun fire. A German major commanded the massacre under orders of the District Military Commander, one Zimmermann.

When it came to the turn of 100 school boys, most of whom were still carrying their school books, the headmaster pleaded on his knees that their lives should be spared. When this was refused he cried to the German major: "Then you must shoot me too".

This was done.

Among other victims were 12 teachers, seven priests and several judges. The first to fall was a man renowned in the town for his philanthropy.

The slaughter lasted all day. When an N. C. O. reported that the number of victims required by Hitler's decree had been despatched—about 2,300—the major ordered the shooting to continue. Thereafter no tally was kept on the dead. The estimates of killed vary between 3,400 and 4,000. **The Germans officially announced through the puppet mayor of the town that 60 per cent of the entire male population had been wiped out.**

The burying of the dead took several days. They were thrown together into shallow crowded graves. The town became a living hell, shunned even by the peasants who normally thronged its markets.

PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

1942—

LECTURE XCI—(*Batch 3*).

April	... 18, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	19, Sunday ...	Alangudi	...	6.00 p. m.
		Vadagadu	...	6.30 p. m.
	20, Monday ...	Annavasal	...	6.00 p. m.
		Kilakkurichchi	...	6.30 p. m.
	21, Tuesday ...	Ramachandrapuram	...	6.00 p. m.
		Rayavaram	...	6.30 p. m.
	22, Wednesday	Valaramanikkam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Embal	...	6.30 p. m.
	23, Thursday ...	Malaiyur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Karambakkudi	...	6.30 p. m.
	24, Friday ...	P. Puduppatti	...	6.00 p. m.
		Vendampatti	...	6.30 p. m.

LECTURE XCII—(*Batch 4*).

	25, Saturday ...	Town Hall	...	6.30 p. m.
	26, Sunday ...	Muslim Association, Pudukkottai.		5.30 p. m.
		Nirpalani	...	6.00 p. m.
		Avoor	...	6.30 p. m.
	27, Monday ...	Karaiyur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Idaiyattur	...	6.30 p. m.
	28, Tuesday ...	Andakkulam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Killanur	...	6.30 p. m.
	29, Wednesday.	Vadavalam	...	6.00 p. m.
		Sammattividuthi	...	6.30 p. m.
	30, Thursday ...	Kiranur	...	6.00 p. m.
		Nanjur	...	6.30 p. m.
May	... 1, Friday ...	Kulipirai	...	6.00 p. m.
		Sevalur	...	6.30 p. m.

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 1,000—18-4-42.